

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 9 to 22 are currently pending in the application. With this amendment, Applicants amend claim 9 and cancel claims 14, 15, and 17 to 20. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): An installation for the preparation of hot water, comprising:

a cold water reservoir;

a heating unit;

a cold water pipe between the cold water reservoir and the heating unit;

a draw-off point for drawing off hot water;

a hot water pipe between the heating unit and the draw-off point;

a pump for making water flow from the cold water reservoir through the cold water pipe, the heating unit and the hot water pipe to the draw-off point; **and**

a vent pipe connected to at least one of the cold water pipe and the hot water pipe;

wherein the vent pipe runs upwards to the level above a highest water level in the installation and runs downwards from the level; and

wherein a section of the vent pipe running downwards discharges above the cold water reservoir.

10. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 9, wherein the pump is installed in the cold water pipe and, viewed in the direction of flow of the water, the vent pipe is connected to the cold water pipe downstream of the pump and upstream of the heating unit.

11. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 10, wherein a further vent pipe is connected to the hot water pipe.

12. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 9, wherein the pump is installed in the hot water pipe and, viewed in the direction of flow of the water, the vent pipe is connected to the hot water pipe downstream of the heating unit and upstream of the pump.

13. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 12, wherein a further vent pipe is connected to the hot water pipe downstream of the pump.

14-15. (Cancelled).

16. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 9, wherein the cold water reservoir is connected via a controllable tap to a cold water feed pipe and a water level in the cold water reservoir is measured by a level meter that gives a signal to open the tap when the water level falls below a set level and gives a signal to close the tap when the set level is exceeded.

17-20. (Cancelled).

21. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 10, wherein the cold water reservoir is connected via a controllable tap to a cold water feed pipe and a water level in the cold water reservoir is measured by a level meter that gives a signal to open the tap when the water level falls below a set level and gives a signal to close the tap when the set level is exceeded.

22. (Previously Presented) The installation according to claim 12, wherein the cold water reservoir is connected via a controllable tap to a cold water feed pipe and a water level in the cold water reservoir is measured by a level meter that gives a signal to open the tap when the water level falls below a set level and gives a signal to close the tap when the set level is exceeded.